

3. (New) The method of claim 2 wherein said nucleic acid ligand assists in the identification of the regulatory region by having a similar structure to the DNA or RNA region.
4. (New) The method of claim 2 wherein said nucleic acid ligand is provided by the method comprising the steps of:
- a) contacting a candidate mixture of nucleic acids each of which have a randomized sequence with the protein, whereby nucleic acids having an increased affinity to the protein relative to the candidate mixture may be partitioned from the remainder of the candidate mixture;
  - b) partitioning the increased affinity nucleic acids from the remainder of the candidate mixture; and
  - c) amplifying the increased affinity nucleic acids to yield a ligand-enriched mixture of nucleic acids, whereby a nucleic acid ligand of the protein may be identified.
5. (New) The method of claim 2 wherein the DNA or RNA region is selected from the group consisting of a promoter, an origin of replication, a ribosomal binding site and a tRNA binding site.
6. (New) The method of claim 2 wherein the protein regulates transcription.
7. (New) The method of claim 2 wherein the protein regulates translation.
8. (New) The method of claim 2 wherein the protein is selected from the group consisting of transcriptional activators, transcriptional repressors, transcription complexes at promoter sites, replication accessory proteins, DNA polymerases, RNA polymerases and translational repressors.

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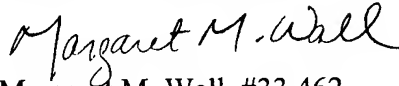
#### REMARKS

By the foregoing amendments, claim 1 has been canceled without prejudice and claims 2-9 have been added. Support for new claims 2-9 can be found in the

specification at page 54, line 31 to page 55, line 12; page 57, lines 20-29; page 62, line 32 to page 63, line 7; and Example 2.

It is believed that no fee is due with this submission. If this is in error, please charge any fee to Deposit Account No. 19-5117.

Respectfully submitted,



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